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DAREDEVIL®

THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!

DIRECT EDITION

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DAREDEVIL REPORT, DAY 25.

HAVEN'T SLEPT SINCE EARLY YESTERDAY.

WAS KEEPING AN EYE ON THE PRIVATE DETECTIVE, DAKOTA NORTH, SINCE I SAW TWO MEN FOLLOWING HER.

OF COURSE, THERE WERE OTHER THINGS TO TAKE CARE OF...

BUT I MANAGED TO FIT THAT IN AROUND KEEPING TABS ON MS. NORTH AND THE LOWLIFES WATCHING HER.

THEY SLEPT IN A CAR OUTSIDE HER BUILDING...

...AND DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE WHEN I PLACED A LISTENING DEVICE ON IT.

SO, I PROBABLY SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN THAT WORRIED...

...BUT AFTER WHAT HAPPENED TO FRANKLIN NELSON...

...I THOUGHT I'D BETTER PLAY IT SAFE.

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OF COURSE, WHEN IT DID GO DOWN, I BLEW IT...

OKAY, LET'S MOVE.

MERV, YOU DON'T THINK-- I MEAN, LET'S JUST *HOLD UP* A SEC, Y'KNOW?

WE CROSS THIS LINE, IT'S LIKE WE CROSS *THE* LINE.

WE SHOULD AT LEAST PUT A *CALL* IN...GET AN *OKAY* BEFORE-HAND.

IS THAT SO HARD?

JUST PUSH A BUTTON ON A CELL-PHONE.

ALL I'M SAYIN'.

LADY'S GETTING *TOO CLOSE*, CHICO.

TIME TO *DO SOMETHING* ABOUT THAT.

OR YOU CAN SIT ON THE SIDELINES YOUR WHOLE LIFE.

YOUR CALL.

SEE, EVERYONE MOCKS THE *SIDELINES*...

BUT YOU NEVER SEE ANY-ONE GET *KILLED* ON THEM.

OR PISS OFF THEIR BOSS.

306

HEY BEN, YEAH, IT'S ME...

THINK I MIGHT'VE FOUND SOMETHING... CHECKING OUT AN ADDRESS FOR ALTON LENNOX'S *SECRETARY*.

WELL... I JUST *HAPPEN* TO HAVE A FRIEND AT THE IRS, *THAT'S* HOW.

FRIENDS COME IN *HANDY* IN THIS JOB. YOU SHOULD TRY TO *GET* SOME...

I KNOW, I *AM*...I'M PLAYING CAROLINE'S IMPROV EVERY TUESDAY...

MOSTLY WITH CRACKS ABOUT *YOU*, URICH.

HEY, LADY...

OH, $#@%...

KRKK

AK!

DAKOTA?

MERV!

I'M *FINE*. GET THAT #@%$%!

IN BROAD *DAYLIGHT?*

DAMN IT TO HELL...

HEY! HEY!

BLAM

KSSSHH

HEY *THIS,* MOTHER--

NOOO!

KRRNK

YOU *STUPID* SON OF A %@#$&!

WE'RE ON THE *SAME--*

KRKK

WOW... YOU'RE GOOD.

YOU SHOULD BE SAFE *NOW*, MS. NORTH...

THEY WERE THE ONLY ONES ON YOU.

HEY, WAIT A SECOND...

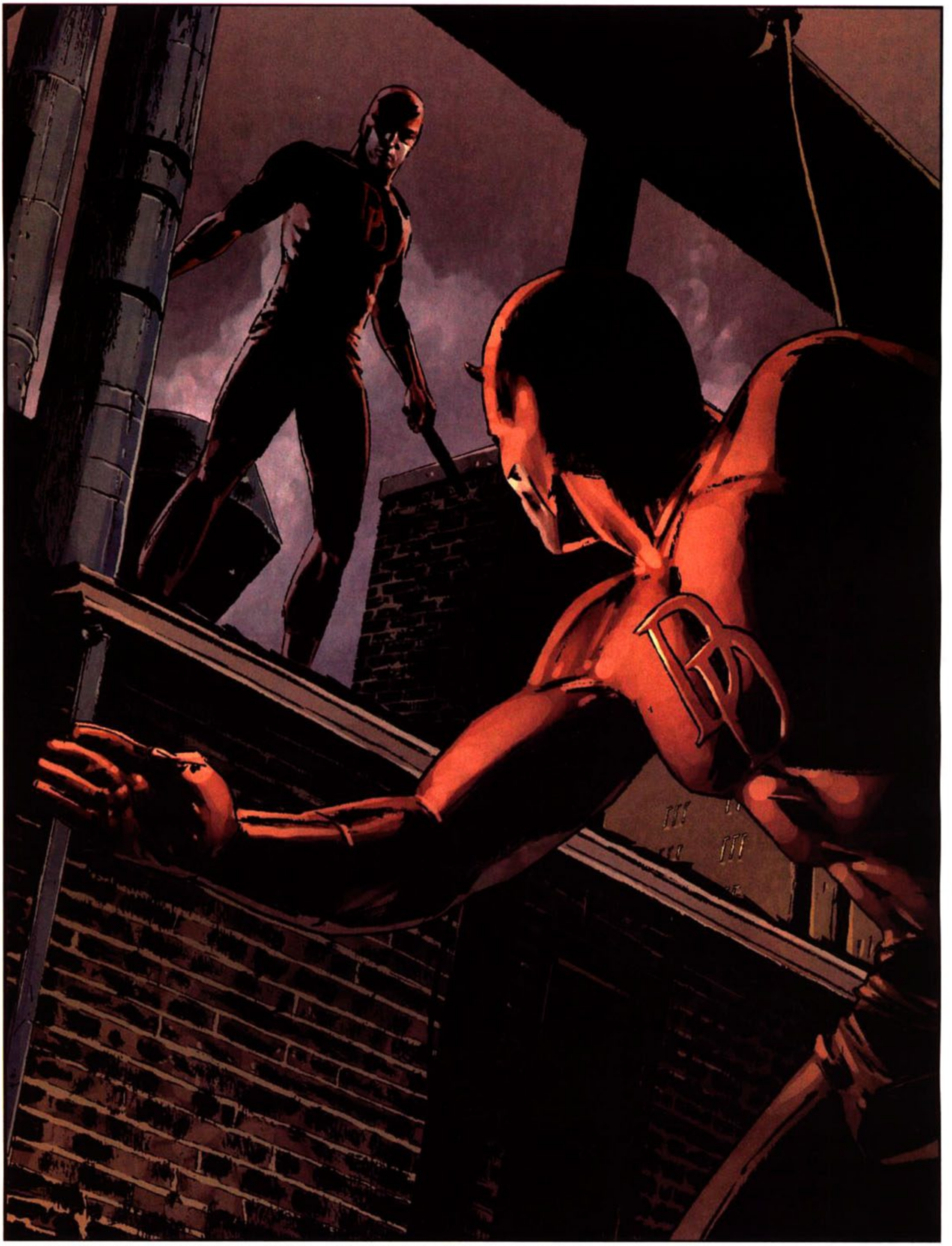
...I *KNOW* YOU.

STUPID MISTAKE...

...I FORGOT WE'D MET. *AND* SHE'S WORKING WITH URICH FROM THE BUGLE...

...SO IT LOOKS LIKE THIS MIGHT BE MY LAST REPORT.

HEY...



ATTORNEY MATT MURDOCK WAS BLINDED AS A CHILD, BUT HIS OTHER FOUR SENSES FUNCTION WITH SUPERHUMAN SHARPNESS AND FORM A RADAR SENSE. WITH AMAZING FIGHTING SKILLS, HE STALKS THE STREET AT NIGHT, IN RELENTLESS PURSUIT OF JUSTICE AS **DAREDEVIL, THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR.** RECENTLY, MATT WAS INCARCERATED AT RYKER'S ISLAND, CHARGED WITH BREAKING THE LAW WHILE MASQUERADING AS THE VIGILANTE DAREDEVIL. WHEN LAST WE SAW MATT, HE AND THE PUNISHER WERE PLANNING AN ESCAPE IN THE AFTERMATH OF A HORRIFIC RIOT...

THE DEVIL IN CELL BLOCK D

FINALE

ED BRUBAKER WRITER	MICHAEL LARK & STEFANO GAUDIANO ARTISTS	FRANK D'ARMATA COLORIST	VC'S CORY PETIT LETTERER	AXEL ALONSO CONSULTING EDITOR	WARREN SIMONS EDITOR	JOE QUESADA EDITOR IN CHIEF	DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER

RYKER'S ISLAND. ONE HOUR EARLIER...

I KNOW... WE SAW THE *WHOLE THING* ON THE MONITORS.

WE'LL DISCUSS IT *LATER*, SERGEANT. JUST CONTINUE TO SECURE THE FACILITY...

SO, WHAT DO WE *HAVE?*

LOTTA FOOTAGE FROM THE RIOT...REAL SPOTTY, BECAUSE WE LOST SO MANY CAMERAS...

AND THEN *THIS...*

...THE PUNISHER USING A *BLIND* MAN AS A *HUMAN SHIELD.*

THEN WE HAVE HIM TAKING DOWN TWO MEN GUARDING THE RIOT SQUAD CHOPPER...

AND BOY... IT SURE *LOOKS LIKE* MURDOCK'S BEING HELD *HOSTAGE* WHEN THEY FLY AWAY.

YES, IT DOES. AND THE *REST* OF THE FOOTAGE FROM THE DAY?

NOTHING ELSE WITH MURDOCK IN IT *EXISTS.* NOT ANYMORE.

YOU'VE GOT NO *PROBLEM* WITH THAT, CAPTAIN?

I GREW UP IN HELL'S KITCHEN, WARDEN.

RIGHT.

MARTA, CALL YOUR FRIEND FROM THE 11 O'CLOCK NEWS... TELL HER SHE'S GOT AN *EXCLUSIVE.*

THEY JUST *CALLED IN* THIS CHOPPER. GOTTA GET OUT OF THE SKY.

YOU CARE WHERE I PUT HER DOWN?

JUST AS LONG AS IT'S *MANHATTAN.*

I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SAY THESE WORDS, BUT... *THANKS,* FRANK.

NOT NECESSARY.

YOU'RE HURTIN' *A LOT* RIGHT NOW, MURDOCK, WITH *GOOD REASON.*

BUT YOU *DON'T* WANT TO BE *ME.*

YOU NEEDED TO REMEMBER THAT.

YOU'LL BE OKAY?

I CAN SLIP AWAY WITHOUT HURTING ANY COPS, IF *THAT'S* WHAT YOU MEAN.

THAT *IS* WHAT I MEANT.

YOU'RE STILL PREDICTABLE, SO NOT *EVERYTHING'S* CHANGED.

NO, NOT EVERYTHING... JUST *ENOUGH...*

Fifteen minutes after leaving Punisher, I've got one of my spare outfits on.

It takes almost an hour to find him, though.

Being back in the city, the sounds and smells... they're disorienting.

But my radar spots him.

He's saying something as I approach...

But the sound of my heart in my ears is all I hear.

He's good, I'll give him that.

A better martial artist than most I've faced.

And he's trying to emulate my moves at the same time.

That takes considerable effort and concentration.

But he doesn't use the billy club.

That's his first mistake.

SPOK

His second is he doesn't understand my rage.

Because I know that this man who's been pretending to be me...

...is somehow connected to whoever paid for Foggy's execution.

And nothing is going to stop me from getting to the bottom of that.

Nothing.

YAAA--

DANNY?

MATT...?
AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE IN RYKER'S?
Danny Rand is Iron Fist. He and Luke Cage used to run Heroes for Hire. He would never betray me...

So what the hell is going on?

I THOUGHT I WAS WORKING FOR *FOGGY*, AND FOR WHOEVER TOOK OVER YOUR *DEFENSE* AFTERWARDS...

FIGURED HE USED ANOTHER LAWYER AS A FRONT, FOR *PLAUSIBLE DENIABILITY.*

NO...FOGGY WOULD *NEVER* HAVE DONE THAT.

WHAT ELSE DO YOU KNOW ABOUT *ALTON LENNOX?*

NOT MUCH. I'D DROP OFF A REPORT ONCE A WEEK AT HIS OFFICE.

AND A COUPLE TIMES HE CALLED WITH TIPS ABOUT JOBS THAT WERE GOING DOWN.

THINK I SAW HIM MEETING WITH A FED ONCE, WHICH I ASSUMED WAS CONNECTED TO YOUR *CASE* SOMEHOW.

IT *WASN'T*... NOT IN A GOOD WAY, AT LEAST.

LOOK, I DIDN'T SPEND MUCH TIME WITH HIM, BUT HE DIDN'T SEEM LIKE A *MURDERER,* MATT.

HE WAS THE LAST PERSON FROM THE OUTSIDE WORLD TO SPEAK WITH FOGGY'S KILLER.

AND HE HIRED A MAN TO MASQUERADE AS DAREDEVIL.

HE'S PULLING MY *STRINGS,* DANNY...

HE BETTER HAVE A DAMN GOOD EXPLANATION FOR THAT.

ARE YOU *INSANE?* THIS IS BREAKING AND ENTERING.

OH, IT IS *NOT.* I GOT THE KEY FROM THE SECURITY GUARD.

YES, AND WHEN HE *REALIZES* THAT, WE'RE BOTH GOING TO JAIL.

WE ARE NOT...JUST *RELAX,* URICH...

AND TURN OFF YOUR CELL-PHONE. THIS ISN'T A MOVIE THEATER.

B-DEEP-DEEP

URICH HERE...

WHAT? TODAY?

FOR HOW LONG?

WELL...I'M KIND OF IN THE *MIDDLE* OF SOMETHING, ROBBIE.

I'LL GET ON IT, THOUGH.

WHAT?

THERE WAS A *RIOT* AT RYKER'S. IT BROKE JUST BEFORE NOON...

APPARENTLY THE WARDEN KEPT A *LID ON IT* UNTIL THEY GOT IT UNDER CONTROL...

MY GOD...BECKY WAS JUST *THERE* THIS MORNING.

WHAT ABOUT *MURDOCK?* IS HE...?

WHAA--

BEN, DAKOTA...SHUT THE DOOR, *PLEASE.*

%?#$, YOU ARE GONNA DRIVE ME BACK TO SMOKING.

WHAT ARE YOU *DOING HERE?*

HE'S *FRIENDS* WITH LENNOX, REMEMBER?

ACTUALLY, I'VE NEVER *MET* THE MAN.

AND IT SEEMS HE'S BEEN GONE FROM THIS PLACE *AT LEAST* A FEW DAYS.

REST OF THE ROOMS ARE *EMPTY*, TOO, JUST SOME--

HEY!

OH.

WAIT A SEC. I THOUGHT *YOU--*

--WERE *YOU?*

YOU'RE *STILL* WORKING FOR MY ATTORNEY, MS. NORTH...

SO PERHAPS IT'S *BEST* IF YOU JUST STOP ASKING QUESTIONS?

URICH... WHAT IS GOING *ON* HERE?

I'M NOT SURE, BUT I *THINK* ONE OF MY ONLY FRIENDS IS THROWING WHAT'S *LEFT* OF HIS LIFE AWAY.

THAT'S REALLY THE *ONLY* EXPLANATION THAT MAKES SENSE, ISN'T IT?

THIS IS ABOUT *MORE* THAN MATT MURDOCK'S LIFE NOW.

IT'S ABOUT GETTING ANSWERS...AND *JUSTICE.*

WHAT*EVER* THE COST?

IT'S ALREADY COST *MORE* THAN I COULD BEAR.

YEAH... DAMN.

DAKOTA TOLD ME ABOUT LENNOX MAYBE WORKING FOR FOGGY'S KILLER.

I'M THINKING IT'S THE OTHER WAY *AROUND*, WHICH I CAME TO FIND OUT...

...BUT IT LOOKS LIKE LENNOX IS A FEW STEPS AHEAD.

THE ONLY THINGS LEFT IN ANY OF HIS OFFICES ARE THE FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT.

NOT A SCRAP OF PAPER, AND ALL THE COMPUTER HARD DRIVES HAVE BEEN WIPED.

HE'S IN THE WIND.

AND SO IS MY *ONLY LEAD* TO FOGGY'S KILLER.

MAN, YOU GUYS *SUCK* AT THIS.

BOOP

AN INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER AND TWO COSTUMED HEROES...

...AND NO ONE EVEN *THINKS* TO HIT REPRINT ON A *FAX MACHINE.*

CCHHRR-CHRR

WHAT DOES IT SAY?

IT'S AN E-TICKET.

FIRST-CLASS FARE TO THE PRINCIPALITY OF MONACO.

NEWARK, NEW JERSEY LATER...

ALL RIGHT, I GOT WHAT YOU ASKED FOR, AND I SWUNG THROUGH A DRUG STORE...

...BUT I *STILL* THINK THIS IS A *TERRIBLE* IDEA, MATT.

THIS *ISN'T* GOING TO HELP YOUR CASE.

THERE WAS NEVER GOING TO *BE* A CASE. TODAY *PROVED* THAT.

PUTTING ME IN RYKER'S WAS ALL ABOUT *BREAKING* ME, AND GETTING ME *KILLED.*

AND LET'S FACE IT, BEING IN JAIL DIDN'T DO THE ONE THING IT WAS *SUPPOSED* TO...

...SHIELD THE PEOPLE I *CARE ABOUT* FROM THE NIGHT-MARE MY LIFE HAS *BECOME.*

Y'KNOW... THE LAST TIME I SAW FOGGY, WE *FOUGHT.*

HE BLAMED ME.

NO. NONE OF THIS IS YOUR FAULT, BEN...

BUT I *HAVE* TO DO THIS, AND YOU HAVE TO KEEP *COVERING* FOR ME, JUST LIKE DANNY IS.

OKAY... JUST...DON'T GET *KILLED,* OKAY?

THAT'S *NOT* A STORY I EVER WANT TO WRITE.

EARLIER TODAY, WE REPORTED NEWS OF A RIOT AT RYKER'S ISLAND PRISON. BUT WNYC CAN NOW SHOW YOU THIS **DRAMATIC** FOOTAGE...

IT APPEARS THAT DURING THE RIOT, FRANK CASTLE--THE **PUNISHER**--USED **BLIND ATTORNEY** MATT MURDOCK AS A HOSTAGE...

...AND MANAGED TO COMMANDEER A **HELICOPTER** TO ESCAPE THE FACILITY.

MURDOCK WAS BEING HELD AT RYKER'S PENDING **TRIAL** IN FEDERAL COURT ON CHARGES RELATED TO THE **ACCUSATION** THAT HE IS THE COSTUMED HERO, **DAREDEVIL.**

HOWEVER, AS YOU CAN CLEARLY SEE, MURDOCK APPEARS HIGHLY CONFUSED AND HELPLESS...

...NOTHING MORE THAN A BLIND HUMAN SHIELD FOR THE PUNISHER.

AND WITH **REPEATED** SIGHTINGS OF DAREDEVIL IN THE **CLINTON** AREA OF MANHATTAN WHILE MURDOCK HAS BEEN **BEHIND BARS**...

...THE QUESTION OF WHO DAREDEVIL **REALLY** IS APPEARS **WIDE OPEN** TO DEBATE.

--WHO DAREDEVIL REALLY IS APPEARS WIDE OPEN TO DEBATE.

RYKER'S WARDEN COLE PAINTS A PICTURE OF MURDOCK AS A MAN WHO IS ANYTHING BUT DANGEROUS...

I NEVER THOUGHT A BLIND MAN AWAITING TRIAL SHOULD BE IN A FEDERAL PENITENTIARY...NOT WITH THE ALLEGATIONS MADE AGAINST MURDOCK...

...AND ALL THE PEOPLE THE REAL DAREDEVIL HAS PUT HERE.

BUT IN MY PERSONAL INTERACTIONS WITH HIM, AND IN VIDEO SURVEILLANCE DURING HIS TIME HERE, WHICH I WILL BE RELEASING TO THE MEDIA...

...I HAVE NOT SEEN ONE THING THAT LEADS ME TO BELIEVE MURDOCK IS ANYTHING BUT AN INNOCENT MAN WRONGLY ACCUSED.

YOU SONNOVA-BITCH...

AND I PLACE THE BLAME FOR TODAY'S VIOLENCE SQUARELY ON THE FBI, WHO FORCED MURDOCK AND SEVERAL VICIOUS OFFENDERS INTO THE SAME FACILITY...

...KNOWING THEY WERE DOING NOTHING MORE THAN CREATING A TIME BOMB.

DIRECTOR?

IS THIS HIM ON THE LINE?

NO SIR, WARDEN COLE IS NOT AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME.

WHAT? GET HIM ON THE *LINE*, JACKIE.

I'LL CONTINUE TO *TRY*, SIR, BUT YOU DO HAVE ANOTHER CALL...

SENATOR ENGEL IS *DEMANDING* TO SPEAK WITH YOU. HE'S ON LINE ONE.

"AT THIS TIME, THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE PUNISHER AND HIS CAPTIVE, BLIND ATTORNEY MATT MURDOCK ARE UNKNOWN...

"...BUT POLICE ARE PURSUING ALL LEADS, AND HOPE FOR A SAFE RECOVERY OF THE HOSTAGE."

MEN

I got a lucky break, with Warden Cole covering for me...turning on the F.B.I. But I can't count on luck... not from this point on.

I'M AFRAID I'VE ONLY GOT FIRST CLASS LEFT ON THAT FLIGHT...DOES THAT WORK FOR YOU, MISTER...?

MURDOCK...

raima air

...MICHAEL MURDOCK.

AND THAT'LL BE FINE. WHEN DOES IT LEAVE?

They tried to break me, and maybe even succeeded a bit.

Whoever they are, they're going to regret that.

They tried to kill me, and they failed.

And they're going to regret what they did to Foggy...

WELCOME

The Philadelphi
Murdock missing after prison riot
police, FBI seek
in connection with escape
AW, MATT...

...WHAT'RE YOU *DOING?*

MISTER NELSON, PLEASE STEP BACK INSIDE THE HOUSE...

ALL RIGHT...

WE DON'T WANT ANYONE *SEEING* YOU UNTIL YOU'RE OFF THAT *WALKER...*

...AND READY TO ASSUME YOUR *NEW LIFE...*

NEXT MONTH:
THE SECRET LIFE OF FOGGY NELSON